

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Big Four Talks

THE cautious attitude of President Eisenhower and Mr. Dulles to the proposed big four top-level talks is readily understandable. Like their British and French colleagues, they are at the moment somewhat in the dark. No formal agenda has been prepared, wherefore the leaders of the Western powers can only guess as to what subjects the Russians wish to discuss or will be willing to include in the talks.

Mr. Dulles envisages an exchange of views relating to Germany, world disarmament, atomic weapons, Soviet satellites and the international activities of the Cominform. It can be assumed the Russians will be prepared to discuss the first three subjects, but they may be less inclined to embrace the questions of the satellites and the Cominform.

Russia has more than once blandly denied the militancy of the Cominform, and has frequently insisted that it is a spontaneous movement, subject to no central control or direction. To the Western democracies, however, the Cominform is an integral weapon used by the Soviets in the pursuit of the cold war, and for this reason is regarded as a distinct menace to international peace.

THE first aim of the Big Three is to try to secure, in collaboration with Russia, a reduction in the tensions which threaten peace not only in Europe, but in the Far East, South-east Asia and other areas, and this can best be accomplished if the Russians are prepared to call off the cold war which they have been waging in many directions and through several sources since 1946.

Any agreement on the Soviets' part to do this must involve curtailment of the activities of the Cominform; must also affect the future attitude of the satellites to the democracies, notably in the use of their propaganda machines. This would be asking a lot of the Russians and their friends, and would be the most ticklish part of any Big Four talks whether at the "summit" or any lower level.

End In Sight?

MR Michael Blundell's disclosure that some Mau Mau leaders have made surrender approaches to the Kenya Government is heartening news indeed, particularly to Kenya itself which has suffered cruelly from the ravages of this diabolical and ghastly terrorism in recent years. The news is doubly welcome as it tends to support General Erskine's optimism that the actual fighting may soon be over.

Nevertheless the end of terrorism signals the beginning of rehabilitation. Kenya still has many challenging problems in store. One of the greatest is that the evolutionary process towards political independence is retarded by the financial stringencies of the time and Colony's increasing dependence on the British taxpayer.

The costly Emergency has in turn imposed costly new additions to the administrative machine which may be required to continue long after ceasefire and surrender. Meanwhile, new development plans made necessary by the trouble clamour for sustenance, patience, understanding and courage of a large order will be needed for many years before the tremendous destructive effects of Mau Mau terrorism are completely eradicated.

ROLL BACK THE IRON CURTAIN!

Eden And The Colonies

Britain Has Big Responsibility

Glasgow, May 18. Sir Anthony Eden, Britain's Prime Minister, declared here tonight that as Britain's colonial peoples grew towards self-government, this country must "retain their support and friendship."

Britain should do this by her conduct both in her relations with colonial peoples and in "the economic and social help we give them."

Sir Anthony Eden said the recent parliamentary approval of a further £80,000,000 for colonial development and welfare in the next five years was "an earnest sign of what we mean to do."

The Prime Minister said that legislation in Britain acted as a model for the young new democracies growing up in Africa, Malaya and in the West Indies.

NOT EASY

But he warned that democracy was not an easy form of government.

The Prime Minister stressed that respect for law was the only basis for democracy, saying "the terrible deeds which have been committed in some territories can only damage the cause of colonial peoples."

Sir Anthony Eden later said that "using all caution, he believed there were more hopeful prospects of direct and useful discussion with Soviet Russia than there had been at any time since the war."

"If it falls to my lot to take part in any more negotiations with the Russians, I look forward to them. But I only look forward to them if I am in close agreement with my friends before I go into them," he said.

Two British men and a girl, who planned to circle the world in a seven-ton yacht, were taken off the craft in a fierce storm early today after they had lost their rudder and their engines broke down.

Southend lifeboat rescued the adventurers three miles off the pier here in 60 miles an hour winds and towed the yacht Stormalong to shore. A lifeboat official said they were "very decent and well, but had a rotten night."

The three sailors are Leslie Moore, 35; his wife Margaret, 27; and a friend, John Townsend, 29.—China Mail Special.

STORM HALTS ADVENTURERS

Left Instrument In Patient

Beauvais, May 18. A doctor who left a probing instrument in a patient's body after operating on him for a hernia in 1948, was fined 70,000 francs by a court here today for "professional carelessness."

The doctor, M. Rougelle, forgot his instrument in the body of a 38-year-old farm-hand, Alphonse Fement.

Dr. Rougelle's probe was found imbedded in Fement's flesh when doctors X-rayed him, following a minor operation.—France-Press.

Air Disaster Report To Be Ready Soon

Bombay, May 18. The report of the Indonesian investigation commission on the crash of the Air India Constellation, Kashmiri Princess, last month with Chinese Communist officials on board is likely to be ready by the end of this month or early June, Air India's divisional operations manager, Captain K. Viswanath, said here today.

Eisenhower Will Make Appeal At Big Four Talks FULLY NEUTRALISED EUROPE ENVISAGED

Washington, May 18. President Eisenhower and his Secretary of State have now hinted at the possibility of persuading the Soviet leaders at the forthcoming Big Four conference to roll back the iron curtain from Eastern Europe to the Soviet borders.

President Eisenhower did so today at his press conference when he put in the forefront of topics for the conference "the problem of the satellite states" and the "penetration" activities of the Soviet controlled international Cominform.

The Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, in his television report to President Eisenhower yesterday was more specific.

He said that the "turning back" of the Soviet armies from Austria under the new state treaty would have a tremendous impact on the Eastern European countries bordering upon Austria or occupied by Soviet troops.

Mr. Dulles predicted that the "people of every satellite country were now going to get the thing that they see the Austrians get."

This would mean the restoration of genuine freedom and independence to the satellite countries on condition that they disassociate themselves from any power bloc such as the recently formed Warsaw alliance and the Communist unified command, and that they refuse to permit Soviet bases on their territories.

Such a proposal would be in the spirit of President Eisenhower's speech of April 16, 1953, which Mr. Dulles yesterday referred to as a "bible for us in the State Department."

At that time, immediately after the death of Marshal Stalin, President Eisenhower called for efforts to bring about an end to the "present unnatural division of Europe."

He said this could be done through the restoration of "full independence" to the Eastern European nations and the formation of a European community broader than just the Western European nations with the free movement of persons, trade and ideas within it.

When this is translated into the terminology of May 1953, President Eisenhower's call for Big Four consideration of the problem of "the satellite states" gives confirmation to the reports that he will counter Soviet proposals for a neutrality belt from Sweden to Yugoslavia with a much broader plan of his own. Ideas for such a plan have been discussed already at the lower "working paper" level in the State Department.

This may explain why President Eisenhower did not react adversely when asked to comment today on an idea which has been presented in the United States press as a Soviet manoeuvre opposed to Western diplomacy the idea of a neutrality belt of states between the Soviet Union and the North Atlantic Alliance.

CONCEPT REFINED President Eisenhower replied almost sympathetically that there seemed to be developing the thought that there might be built up a series of neutralised states from north to south through Europe.

He went on to define the concept of neutralisation as it had been undertaken by Austria and Switzerland. This did not mean disarmament of those countries or the creation of a military vacuum; it involved the commitment to fight to the death to sustain that neutrality.—Reuter.

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KRUSHCHEV WANTS CO-EXISTENCE

Moscow, May 19. Mr. Nikita Krushchev, the Soviet Communist leader, said yesterday: "The fundamental principle of Soviet external policy is the acceptance of the possibility and necessity for peaceful co-existence of various social systems," the Soviet News Agency, Tass, reported today.

Speaking at the closing session of a three-day industrial conference in the Kremlin, Mr. Krushchev said a Soviet delegation led by himself would go to Yugoslavia at the end of this month "with an open heart."

He said the delegation was going chiefly "to guarantee the full normalisation of relations" on the political level between the two countries.

But it would also be to the advantage of both nations to develop "trade and other economic relations." The normalisation of relations between Russia and Yugoslavia had "great importance for the reduction of international tension and the guaranteeing of peace" throughout the world.

THE PRINCIPLE "We firmly hold the view that to normalise relations between states, it is necessary to follow the principle of equality and mutual non-interference in internal affairs," Mr. Krushchev said.

Only on the basis of co-existence could "normal relations and a working co-operation" be established among all nations.

But instead of this there were those who followed the policy of "from positions of strength."

Mr. Krushchev said: "Aggressive circles following the policy of preparing a new war are organising military blocs, basing on the arms race, threatening peoples with atomic war, re-establishing German militarism and carrying out various different measures directed against the peaceful life of peoples."

The Soviet proposals for disarmament, however, "offer a real basis to push forward in a practical way the matter of arms reduction, the prohibition of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction and to remove the threat of a new war."

BOURGEOIS PROPAGANDA The Communist Party leader said "bourgeois propaganda" in the West was "insistently" asserting that the Soviet Union wanted to seize the whole of Europe.

But Russia's willingness to sign an Austrian treaty and withdraw its troops from Austria gave the lie to this allegation.

"For who would withdraw his troops if he was preparing to attack?" Mr. Krushchev said.—Reuter.

REPRISAL RAID Tel-Aviv, May 19. The Israeli Army announced early today that its troops "had stormed an Egyptian military position in the Gaza area last night as a reprisal against the mining of an Israeli vehicle on Tuesday."

A communiqué said the Israeli troops blew up installations after troops manning the Egyptian post had escaped.

It said the raid was carried out in the same area as the mining incident which killed three Israeli soldiers.—Reuter.

PLANE MISSING Nairobi, May 18. An East African Airways aircraft with 16 passengers on board is missing on a flight between Durban, South Africa, and Nairobi, it was reported here tonight.

The aircraft was due here before sunset and tonight military aircraft were patrolling regions where the plane might have crashed. They reported "fishing lights" on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, about 100 miles south of Nairobi.—France-Press.

REINFORCEMENTS For Riot Area Accra, Gold Coast, May 18. Police reinforcements and a company of troops have been rushed to Kumasi, capital of Ashanti province, following riots there over the weekend.

Tension remains high in Kumasi, where a curfew from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. was imposed on Sunday.

Today was the first time in four days that police have not reported clashes or other incidents.—Reuter.



KRUSHCHEV

Russian Wooing Of Tito

Washington, May 18. Marshal Tito, Yugoslav Premier, will be in a strong position to extract economic concessions from the Soviet Union when he meets top Soviet leaders in Belgrade this month, Washington authorities said today.

The big question which is causing concern in the State Department, however, is what Marshal Tito might be persuaded to do in return.

Department experts are under no illusions about the impact of the attractions which the Soviet Premier, Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, and the First Secretary of the Communist Party, Mr. Nikita Krushchev, could offer in an attempt to lure independent Yugoslavia back into the Soviet fold.

Experts welcomed Marshal Tito's weekend statement that the forthcoming meeting would mean "no change" in Yugoslav policy.

But it was still felt here that the Soviet's primary objective would be to weaken the ties established between Yugoslavia and the West by the powerful inducement to profitable trade with the Soviet bloc and other concessions which the Marshal would find extremely hard to resist.

OPENING THE WAY Once economic relations were established, the way would be open for political approaches from the Soviets designed to make independent Yugoslavia the southern end of a European corridor of neutralised states running northwards to Finland.

There was some speculation that the Soviet delegation would seek Yugoslav participation in the recently formed Eastern European mutual defence system, but official opinion was that any effort along these lines would fail.

Since Yugoslavia broke away from the Moscow-led Cominform in 1948, Marshal Tito has steered an almost independent course in the East-West cold war, though he has received military and economic aid from the United States and indirectly linked his country with the North Atlantic Pact through a Balkan security alliance with Greece and Turkey.

PRELIMINARY WEDGE The Soviet Union obviously wished to end such ties and the fact that its top men are willing to travel to Belgrade to talk to the man they once called a "reactionary" deviationist clearly indicates they hope to drive in a preliminary wedge at least.

The State Department had some of its fears dispelled when the Marshal publicly announced that he would not "manoeuvre behind the scenes" in the coming talks, would not join an

MODY ROAD FIRE

Narrow Escape For Two Families

Two British service families narrowly escaped death early this morning, when fire broke out in the living room of their flat at 1 Mody Road, Kowloon.

The flat, on the third floor of a newly-erected apartment house, was completely gutted by the blaze which started shortly after 3 a.m. The apartment on the floor above, also occupied by a service family, caught fire but damage was comparatively slight.

There were no casualties. Sergeant McNamee, one of the occupants of the apartment, awoke to find that the living room was a solid mass of flames. Seeing that it had already spread too much to be put out without help, he woke his wife and three children, and Sgt and Mrs Palmer (the other occupants).

FLATS EVACUATED Tenants on the other floors were awakened by the NCO's, and the entire block was evacuated.

A watchman on patrol in the area, saw the blaze and turned in a "999" call at 3.32 a.m. Six fire appliances arrived on the scene within a matter of minutes. By that time the third floor flat was enveloped in flames which were licking into the windows of the floor above.

Under the direction of Deputy Chief Fire Officer C.W. Brand, and Fire Officer W.H. Shipway, the firemen had the blaze under control by 4.10 a.m. It was extinguished shortly afterwards.

One of the firemen, interviewed by the China Mail at the scene, stated that there was no clue as yet concerning the origin of the fire.

"The third floor is completely gutted with the exception of the kitchen. Some curtains caught fire on the floor above and spread to the furniture. The floor of the fourth story was scorched by the heat from below, but otherwise the flat is not damaged very much," he said.

Police Inspectors J. Andrews and Gingles, of Tsimshatsui Police Station, were at the scene directing the Police.

ANOTHER OUTBREAK While the fire appliances in Kowloon rushed to the blaze at Mody Road another fire broke out about the same time in Tai Po Old Market. A newly-installed appliance at the Tai Po Fire Station quickly put out the fire before it did much damage.

16 Catholics Released

Buenos Aires, May 18. All 16 leaders of Argentina's leading Catholic organization—Catholic Action—who were arrested on May 7 following Catholic demonstrations here, have now been released without charges.

About 40 people, including several priests, who were arrested about the same time after skirmishes between police and Catholics, are still in prison in various cities.

The Chamber of Deputies is expected to begin a debate today on the proposed bill, to separate Church and State.

A committee on constitutional affairs issued a report on the bill today. It recommended "partial reform of the national constitution in all questions relating to relations with the Church in order to secure equality and freedom of worship,"—Reuter.

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SILVER CHALICE

Syria Now Key To Mid. East

NEIGHBOUR NATIONS WANT ALLIANCES

Cairo, May 18.

As a result of recent differences of opinion between certain Arab nations, Syria has greatly gained in importance and it can almost be described as being the political key to the Middle East.

On the one hand, Egypt and Saudi-Arabia are pressing Syria to enter into a tripartite pact with the object of offsetting the Turco-Iraqi pact signed in Baghdad earlier this year.

On the other hand, Iraq and Jordan are engaged in wooing Syria with a view to creating the long cherished fertile "Crescent Plan." This would mean a union between Iraq, Syria and Jordan.

More Arrests

In Goa

Lisbon, May 18. A report from Goa stated here today that an Indian Socialist and several other people have been arrested on Portuguese territory. They were making propaganda for the return of the territory to India, the report said.—France-Press.

Underwater A-Tests Not Harmful

Washington, May 18. Data from the recent underwater atomic test are still being studied but all indications are that it did not do harm to any food, fish or people. Informed sources said today that the Scripps Institution of Oceanography spent a year in the study of sea life and currents before the test to find a spot where a small sub-surface nuclear explosion could safely be set off. The place selected was, according to the Government, hundreds of miles from the United States' west coast in an area free of food, fish and far from shipping lanes. Neither the Defence Department nor the Atomic Energy Commission would say when or where the test was staged. In yesterday's joint statement announcing the successful completion of the experiment they did, however, say:

NO HAZARD

"The indications are that as forecast... the test involved no health hazard to mankind or land inhabitants or consumers of fish." A subsequent statement may be forthcoming when data from various tests conducted by the Scripps Institution have been further analysed.—United Press.

Investigation Into Rice Production

Washington, May 18. A small group of American officials, headed by Mr. Charles Baldwin, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Economic Affairs, left Washington on Tuesday to visit certain countries in Asia in connection with a study of rice production and consumption of rice, the State Department announced today. The American party will arrive in Rangoon on May 21. Rice consumption in some countries of Asia is still at a substantially low level and did not keep pace with population growth, the State Department added.

SPECIAL EMPHASIS

The American delegation will discuss the world rice situation with a special emphasis upon the means to increase the consumption of rice and will explain the nature and operation of the United States Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act. The American team will include, besides Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Lawrence H. Hays, international economist of the State Department; Mr. Dexter Silvermaster, rice marketing specialist of the Department of Agriculture; and Mr. Clarence B. Eldridge, programme co-ordinator of the Department of Agriculture.—France-Press.

Thirdly, Turkey, Syria's northern neighbour, is keeping a very close eye on Syrian policy. A few weeks ago Turkey adopted a somewhat bellicose attitude toward the Syrians but today there are signs that the Turks might join other Arab nations in their attempts to gain Syria's favour.

POWERS' INTEREST

Finally, the Great Powers Britain, the United States, France and Russia—all seem vitally interested in what happens in Syria.

The United States, and, to a lesser extent, Britain, are anxious that the Syrians should not join with Egypt and Saudi-Arabia.

The French, who have considerable influence in Damascus, appear to be opposed to Syria becoming too close to Turkey and Iraq.

The Russians, so it is reported, have openly told Syria that she can count on Soviet support in the event of any Turkish aggression.

In view of this situation it is not to be wondered at that Syria has not yet shown any definite sign of the policy she intends to adopt. Nevertheless, this writer gathered during a recent visit to the Syrian capital that many influential Syrians are keen to make a pact with Egypt and Saudi-Arabia providing these two countries grant her financial and military aid. Saudi-Arabia is in a position to help Syria financially and maybe Egypt can extend her some minor military aid. Since the end of the Bandung conference negotiations for this tripartite pact have been actually carried on in Damascus and Cairo.

According to the latest information an announcement may be expected around the end of the month after the Bahrain holidays which mark the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan fasting.

So far it is the Egyptians and Saudis who have been the most active suitors for Syria's hand, but according to news received from Baghdad this week Iraq has now decided to press strongly her claims.

INVOLVED

In Syria itself the political situation is most involved. It would appear that the army is the most powerful behind-the-scenes factor. Presidential elections are due to be held in August and it is very doubtful if Hafeez el-Assad will be re-elected. El-Assad has been at loggerheads with the Cabinet and army because of his refusal to sign army-backed Government decrees.

For instance, after the recent assassination of the Deputy Army Chief of Staff, Colonel Adnan el-Mallay, the Government adopted with the blessing of the army, a decree that would shorten and facilitate military trial procedures in order to punish those responsible for the assassination as quickly as possible.

But El-Assad refused to sign the decree. Moreover, El-Assad's policy has been to steer clear, as far as possible, of any definite foreign commitments, but with the way things are, it will not be easy for him or for his successor to carry out such a policy.—United Press.

Wreath Laid In Rome



The Duke of Gloucester, one of the senior members of Britain's Royal Family, is pictured here in Rome. He is visiting Italy with Field Marshal Lord Alexander to see the Allied war cemeteries. In this picture, the Duke watches the laying of a wreath on the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier in Rome.—Express Photo.

AUSTRIAN TREATY

Prompt Ratification Urged By Raab

Vienna, May 18.

Chancellor Julius Raab suggested today that a parliamentary delegation should visit the parliaments of the Big Four to urge prompt ratification of the Austrian State treaty signed here last Sunday.

He hopes the treaty can come into force by the end of July, he told the Congress of his right-wing People's Party.

According to reports from the Big Four capitals received here, it is believed that America and France will ratify before their summer vacations and that Britain's new parliament can do so by the beginning of August at the latest. After ratification all occupation troops must be out within 90 days.

The Austrian Government is expected to set an example of speedy ratification by bringing the treaty before Parliament on May 25 and completing the process within a few days.

A special messenger will take the documents to Moscow where all the signatories must deposit their ratification instruments.

Dr Raab said today that he hoped it would be possible to reach an agreement with Western Germany on the disposal of former German property in Austria which is the subject of a West German proposal.

Dr Raab said one of the "blemishes" in the treaty was article 10 which insisted that Austria must continue to exclude the Hapsburg family.

This was a "completely superfluous restriction on Austrian sovereignty." Another blemish was the qualification "in so far as possible" in connection with the

withdrawal of occupation forces by December 31 at the latest.

Dr Raab said the burden of payment to Russia for former German assets was not so great as to lead to a reduction of the Austrian standard of living.

TOKEN FORCE

Signs are seen here that many of the occupation troops may be moved out soon and only a token force remain to take part in the last changing of the guard which, it is hoped, will be on August 1.

With the coming into force of the treaty, the Allied Council will cease to function and the guard and Allied military police patrols will no longer be needed.

Within two months after that the Russians have to hand over to the Austrians all the oil fields, refineries, factories, estates and Danube Shipping Company property which they seized in 1945 as former German assets.

The 200 Russian-administered retail stores which have been opened in Vienna and the Russian zone without permission of the Austrian Government will have to close down.

Russian and Austrian officials are reported to be already at work making an inventory of the properties to be handed over.—Reuter.

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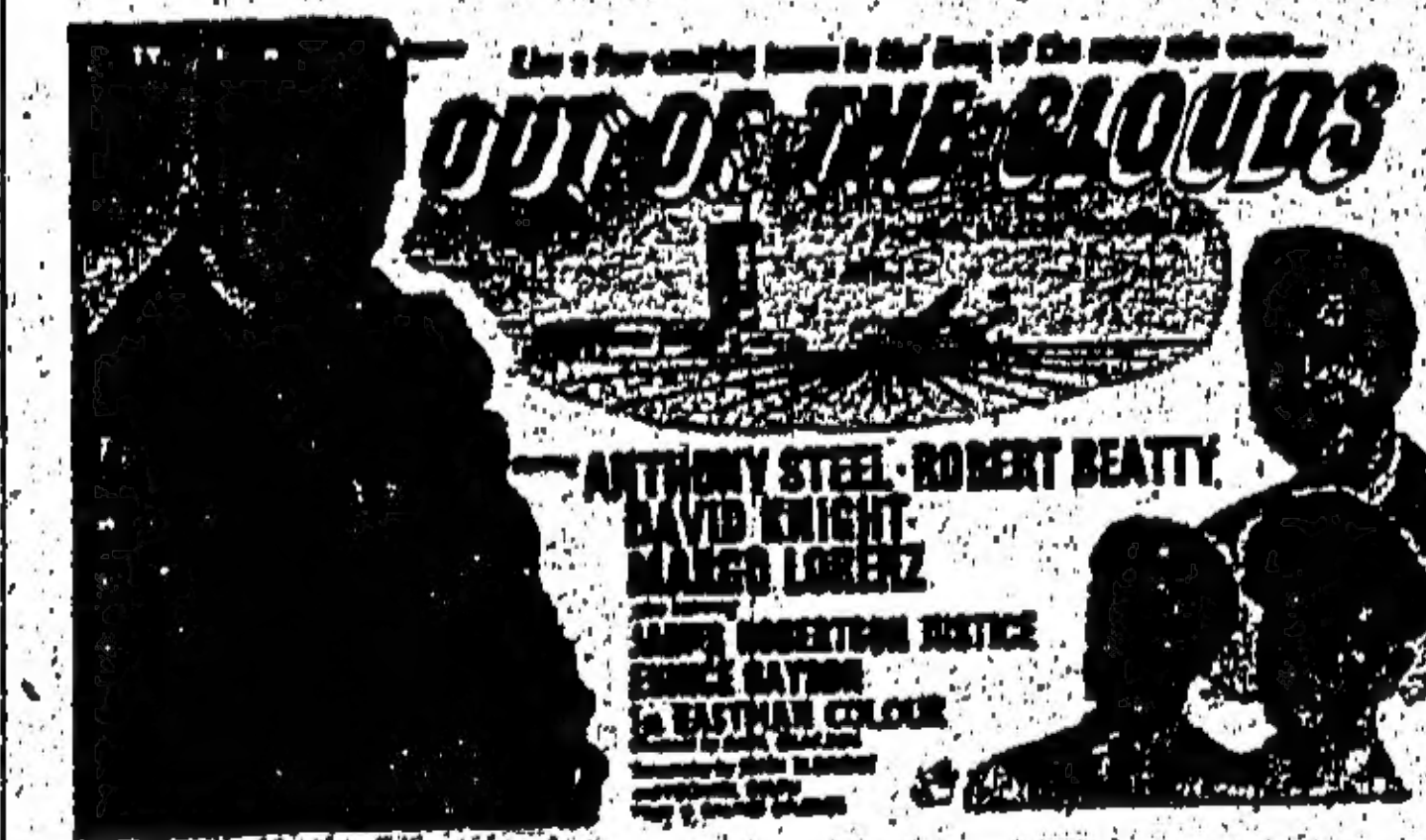
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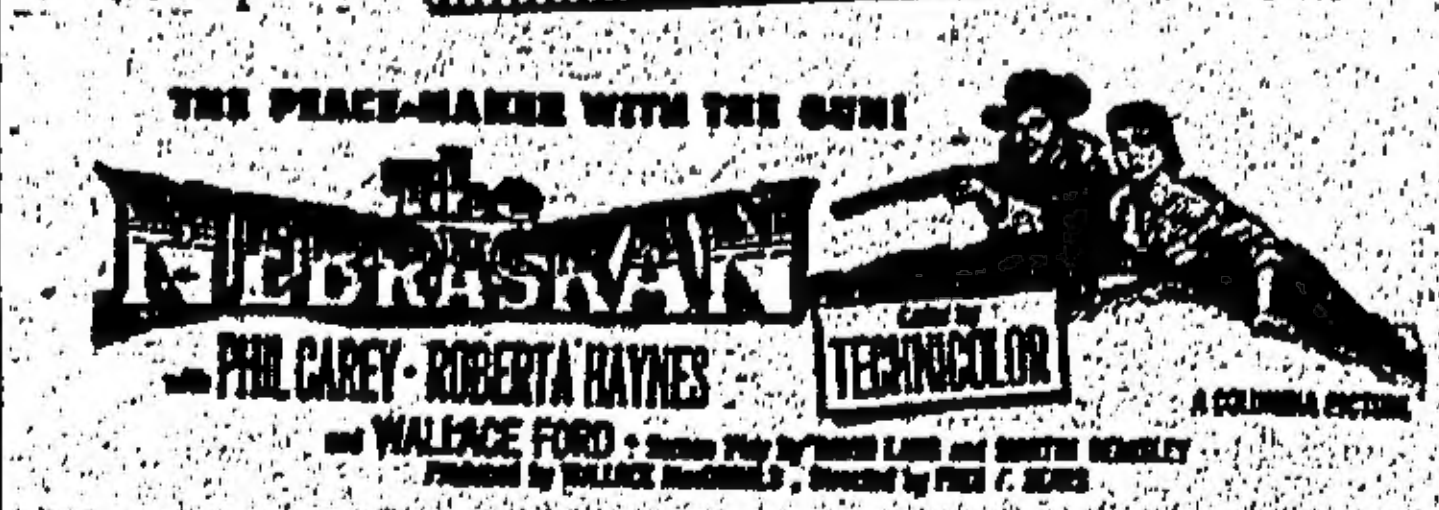
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POP



REBEL BANDS SCATTERED

Communist-Trained Veterans May Be Leading 'Army Of God' NORTH AFRICAN OFFENSIVE

Algiers, May 18.

French military commanders warned tonight Communist-trained veterans of the Indo-China war may be leading the new "Army of God" nationalist offensive against French settlers in North Africa.

Top French military leaders meeting at Constantine with the chief administrator, M. Pierre Dupuch, reached the conclusion as tank-led French forces scattered rebel bands back to their mountain hideouts.

Foreign Legion and infantry troops, backed by armour, repulsed strong rebel bands which last night launched a two-pronged attack against Constantine, a French community three miles off Bône.

REBELS CONTAINED
The garrison contained the rebels, who have destroyed all telephone communications around Constantine, and called for help by radio. The French said they had no casualties in the running battle. Rebel losses were not immediately known.

South African Teachers Protest

Johannesburg, May 18.

FURTHER protests were made in South African universities today against a Government bill to alter the constitution, which would give the Government an overwhelming majority in the Senate.

Altogether 22 professors and 55 other members of the teaching staff of Johannesburg University, associated themselves with the protests already made by the teaching staff of the Pretoria and Cape Town Universities.

PARTY MANOEUVRE
They alleged that the proposed changes in the constitution were in fact a Nationalist Party manoeuvre to push through certain legislation and in particular a bill changing the electoral rights of coloured voters.

This legislation requires a two-thirds majority in Parliament which would be assured, if the constitutional changes were effected.

Opposition to the Government bill may force Prime Minister Johannes G. Strijdom to dissolve Parliament and put the issue to the country.—France-Press.

COUNTERFEIT CHARGES

Tokyo, May 18.
The US Army disclosed today it has arrested a 22-year-old Corporal for passing counterfeit 10 peso bills in the first break in a large-scale counterfeit ring here.

The spokesman said that the Corporal was arrested on Tuesday when he tried to exchange the bogus payment certificates, local currency for all Service-men in the Far East, for Japanese yen at nearby Camp Drake.

Arrested later were six persons who had a total of \$88,970 in counterfeit military currency.—United Press.

Unions Want To Attend Atomic Conference

Vienna, May 18.

The Executive Committee of the anti-Communist International Confederation of Free Trade Unions today decided to call a trade union conference to discuss the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

It will also press for the right to send an observer to the "atoms for peace conference" to be attended by over 50 countries in Geneva next August.

This was announced at the end of the Committee's three-day session here, held to prepare for the fourth world congress of the Confederation opening on Friday.

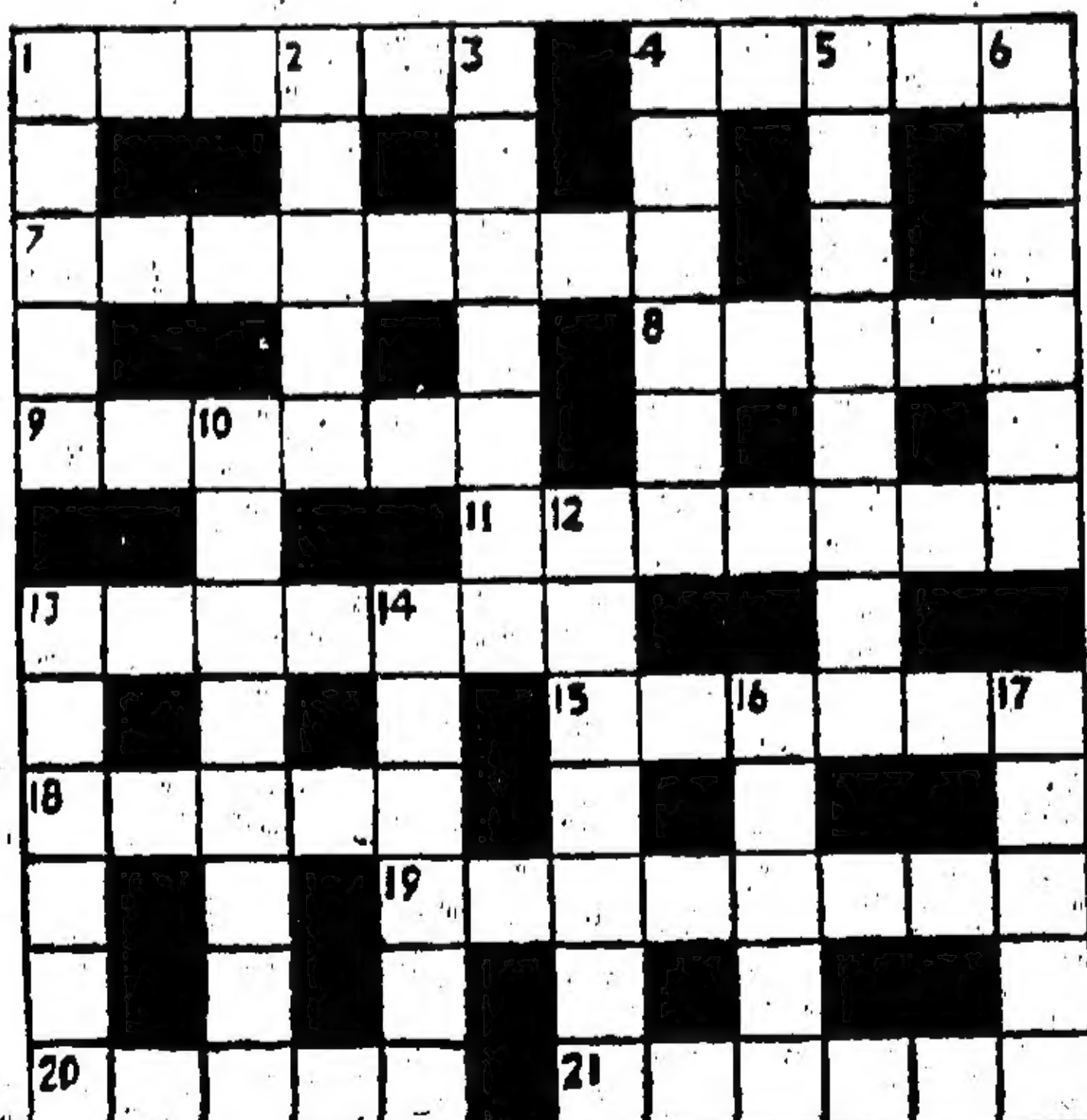
54M MEMBERSHIP

The Confederation has a membership of more than 54,000,000 workers in 77 countries, a spokesman stated at a Press conference.

An important subject discussed by the executive was commodity prices and wages. The spokesman said that workers of highly developed industrial countries should learn they ought not to consume cheap tea or fruit when the low prices were due to bad pay and conditions of the workers who produced them.

Asked if this meant a boycott on tea drinking, the speaker said it did not but it meant an effort to get better conditions for workers on plantations producing tea, rubber, copra, fruit and so on.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

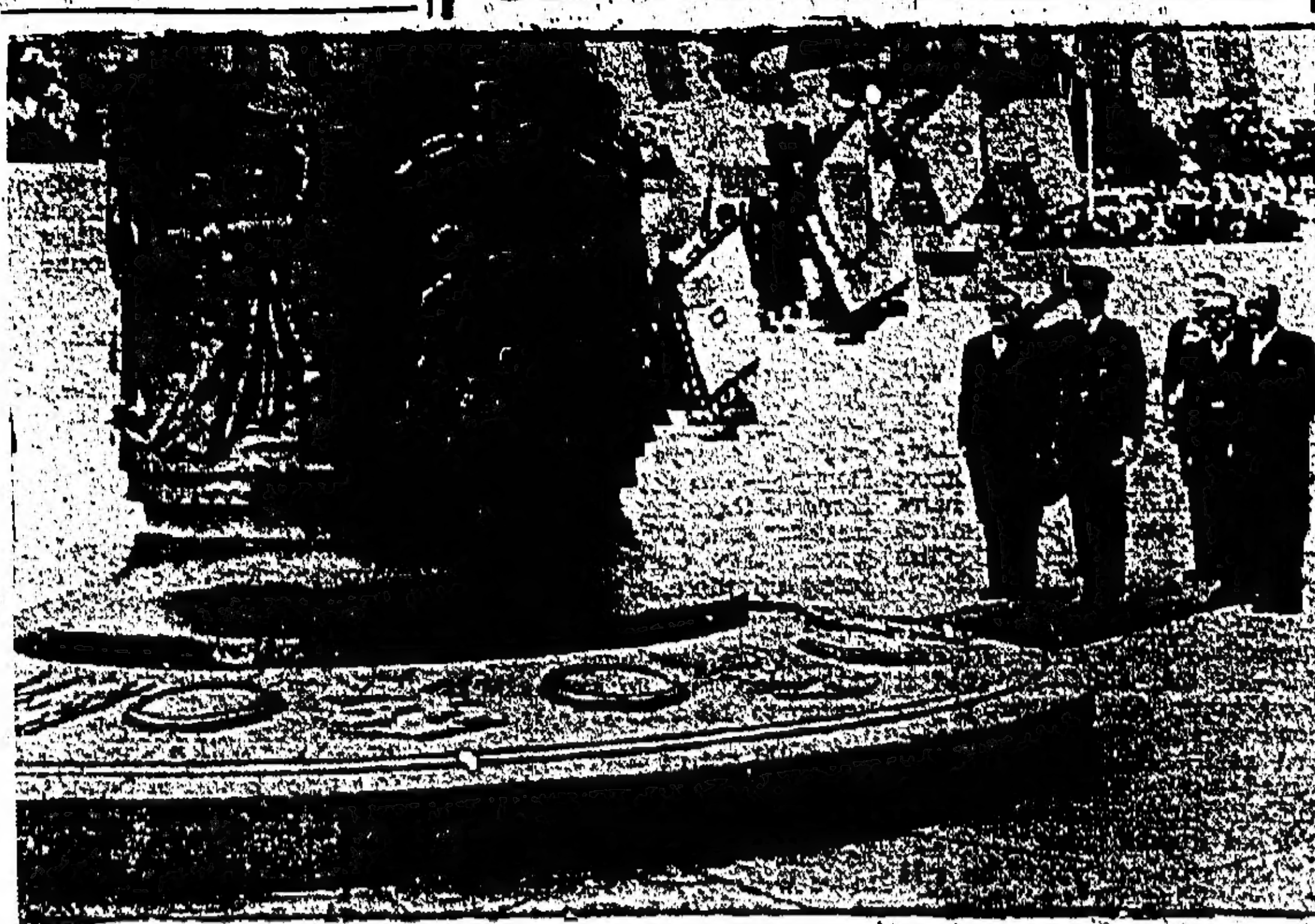
- 1 Scales (6).
- 4 Minute passages in the skin (5).
- 7 Fame (8).
- 8 Dominion (5).
- 9 Difficulty (6).
- 11 Laces (7).
- 13 Unexpected (6).
- 15 Fool (5).
- 16 Be wary (8).
- 19 Skeleton formation (5).
- 21 Happenings (6).

DOWN

- 1 Board game (5).
- 2 Heavenly food (5).
- 3 Legislator (7).
- 4 Looked closely (6).
- 5 Mended (8).
- 6 Measure (6).
- 10 Stayed behind (8).
- 12 What is left (7).
- 13 Reviewer (6).
- 14 Shrewd (6).
- 16 Dig into (5).
- 17 Requirements (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 News, 4 Carmine, 5 Team, 9 Otto, 10 Dungeon, 11 Red, 12 Germ, 14 Dentist, 17 Amuse, 19 Odour, 20 Treated, 28 Egg, 27 Fool, 28 Planted, 29 Tact, 30 Aged, 31 Prelate, 32 East, Down: 2 Edison, 3 Storms, 4 Obed, 5 Amulet, 6 Might, 7 Nooks, 12 Galt, 13 Ruse, 15 Idiot, 16 Time, 18 Defeat, 20 Delude, 21 Ushers, 23 Ruler, 24 Assist, 25 Dodge.

King Baudouin Unveils Memorial



King Baudouin salutes during the unveiling ceremony of a special memorial built at Liege, Belgium, to the memory of the men who died in the Resistance movement.—Express Photo.

Princess Margaret Visiting Germany

Bonn, May 19.

Princess Margaret will receive the good wishes of a newly sovereign West Germany when she arrives for her two-day visit on Monday.

When Princess Margaret came here last year, Western Germany was still occupied and not then allied to Britain.

The British have informed Dr Theodor Heuss, the West German President, that the sister of Britain's Queen is on her way but as it is a strictly private affair the Germans will play little part in the visit.

GOOD WISHES

Dr Heuss will convey his good wishes to the Royal visitor through his Secretary of State, Dr Manfred Kläber, and the Federal Government through the Chief of Protocol, Dr Ernst Mohr, who will greet the Princess at the Bonn airport near Cologne.

The Princess, who is relying on good wishes for her largely rain of doom activities here, will be attended by two extraordinary aides de camp from her own two regiments out here.

They are to be Lieutenant Richard Wilson of Romney, Hampshire, from the 1st Battalion the Suffolk Regiment, and ADC Captain Michael Dawney of the 3rd Hussars, who comes from Farnham, Surrey. Captain Dawney was ADC to the Princess on her last visit here.

Lieutenant Wilson, who is a regular officer, served with his regiment in Malaya, where it killed more bandits than any other British regiment there. These two officers, along with the Princess's own permanent ADC Captain Michael Dawney, of the Coldstream Guards, will wear the special lanyard of a Royal ADC on their shoulders during the visit.

One of their jobs will be to present to the Princess young officers who wish to dance with her at the 3rd Hussars ball at Iserehe on Tuesday.

Princess Margaret will present colours to the Suffolks on Monday and watch a gymnastics with the 3rd Hussars on Tuesday. The gymnastics will have a mounted event in which all the Regimental men, women and children can take part—jumping and racing, sack races and egg and spoon races.

The Princess will spend both nights of her stay at the house of Brigadier and Mrs R. H. Batten, commander of the 5th Infantry Brigade.

On Wednesday, after the ball, she will drive to Guttenberg Royal Air Force station, from where she will fly back to London in a Viking of the Queen's Flight.—China Mail Special.

Thousands Left In N. Vietnam

Paris, May 18.

Thousands of people eager to escape Communist rule were reported to have been left behind in North Vietnam today on the expiry of a migration programme arranged under the terms of the Indo-China armistice.

Britain tried in vain on May 7 to secure Soviet support for an extension of the programme which saw some 700,000 people cross into South Vietnam rather than live under the Communist Government of Ho Chi Minh.

There have been claims that 400,000 other Vietnamese, most of them Roman Catholics, wanted to leave but were unable to get away because of Communist obstruction.—Reuter.

CURIOUS DEATH OF PREACHER

Accident Or Murder?

New York, May 18.

A Coroner's Jury began an investigation today of the curious death of a Negro Baptist preacher whom the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People claimed was killed because he refused to surrender his right to vote.

A Justice of the Peace, Mr J. W. Wampler, said an inquest, delayed two days by absent jury members, would be called to sift through available evidence which might explain whether the Rev. G. W. Lee was killed in a traffic crash or died of shotgun wounds.

Mr Lee, 51, died on May 7 after his car crashed into a house in the heavily populated Negro district of the Mississippi delta town of Belzoni. Specimens of his flesh and metal particles found imbedded in the victim were examined in an FBI Laboratory.

ACTIVE IN DRIVE
Mr Lee had been active in a drive to register more Negro voters in defiance of a local "Citizens' Council," one of many found throughout the South, whose avowed aim is to discourage Negro registration.

In Birmingham, Alabama, Mrs Ruby Jurley, regional NAACP Secretary said, "The Rev. Lee was of course killed. He was active in the NAACP and was one of the few Negroes who registered to vote."

"He was told by the White Citizens' Council to remove his name from the voting list," Mrs Jurley said. "The NAACP legal department in New York is investigating his death as well as the FBI."

The Justice Department in Washington said that the FBI was making a preliminary investigation to determine whether any violation of the Federal civil rights laws might be involved.—United Press.

Disarmament Agreement Possible

London, May 18.

Mr Selwyn Lloyd, Britain's Defence Minister, said in an election broadcast tonight the West's efforts for a disarmament agreement with Russia looked like "bearing fruit."

The main matter outstanding seemed to be the machinery to ensure that an agreement was carried out, he said.

ADJOURNED

Earlier today it was announced that the five-nation secret disarmament conference held here, attended by Britain, the United States, Russia, France and Canada—had adjourned until June 1. Then it will meet in New York.

Mr Lloyd, formerly Britain's representative on the Commission, pledged that Britain would "never give up our efforts to obtain an agreement which will include the complete prohibition of all nuclear weapons."—Reuter.

CHURCHILL ACCUSED OF MAKING SILLY STATEMENTS

Churchill, Lancashire, May 18.
Mr Clement Attlee, Labour Party leader, tonight rebuked Sir Winston Churchill for making "silly statements" about Labour's policy over the hydrogen bomb.

Sir Winston Churchill, he said, thought it an "extraordinary silly idea" that Labour should suggest that there should be no more experiments with the hydrogen bomb and that it

was silly to make the bomb and not experiment with it.

WELL KNOWN

"But the fact is that we know perfectly well the destructive power of the hydrogen bomb," Mr Attlee said. "What people do not quite know is that the effect of the explosion by the experiment of a number of hydrogen bombs is going to do to the world what you have experienced today in the United States, per-

haps in parts of the British Commonwealth and in Russia.

"There is a great danger of poisoning our atmosphere with effects on the human race itself possibly on animals and on vegetation."

Mr Attlee said Labour was right in its suggestion because scientists themselves did not profess to know what the exact results of the hydrogen experiments would be.—Reuter.

Yalta Documents

RUSSIA BLAMES AMERICA

Moscow, May 18.

The first Soviet attempt to refute the Yalta documents published by the State Department earlier this year, was made by Moscow's top political magazine International Life today.

The magazine quoted documents from the Potsdam and Teheran conferences and several other top-level international meetings in an attempt to prove:

1. The Soviet Union was not responsible for German partition.
2. The Soviet Union was not opposed to re-establishing France as a great power.

GREAT IMPORTANCE

Diplomatic quarters here attached great importance to the article which followed on the heels of the conclusion of the Austrian State Treaty, which was signed at Vienna last Sunday.

These quarters said the German problem has now become the most important on the European agenda.

They said the Soviet Union is taking advantage of every chance to show France it should remain friendly to the Soviet Union.

The article said the United States and not the Soviet Union had urged the partition of Germany and relegating of France to a subordinate position.

Diplomatic quarters here recalled that the Communist Party newspaper Pravda criticised the tone of the publication of the Yalta documents in an issue last March 20 but did not then cite the allegations made by the State Department.—France-Press.

Consultative Status For Veterans

United Nations, May 18.

The United Nations Economic and Social Council decided by a vote of 16 to 2 today to grant consultative status to the World Veterans Federation and nine other non-governmental organisations, including the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the World Federation of Trade Unions and the International Chamber of Commerce.

The Soviet Union, which is not a member of the World Veterans Organisation, voted against the proposal together with Czechoslovakia.

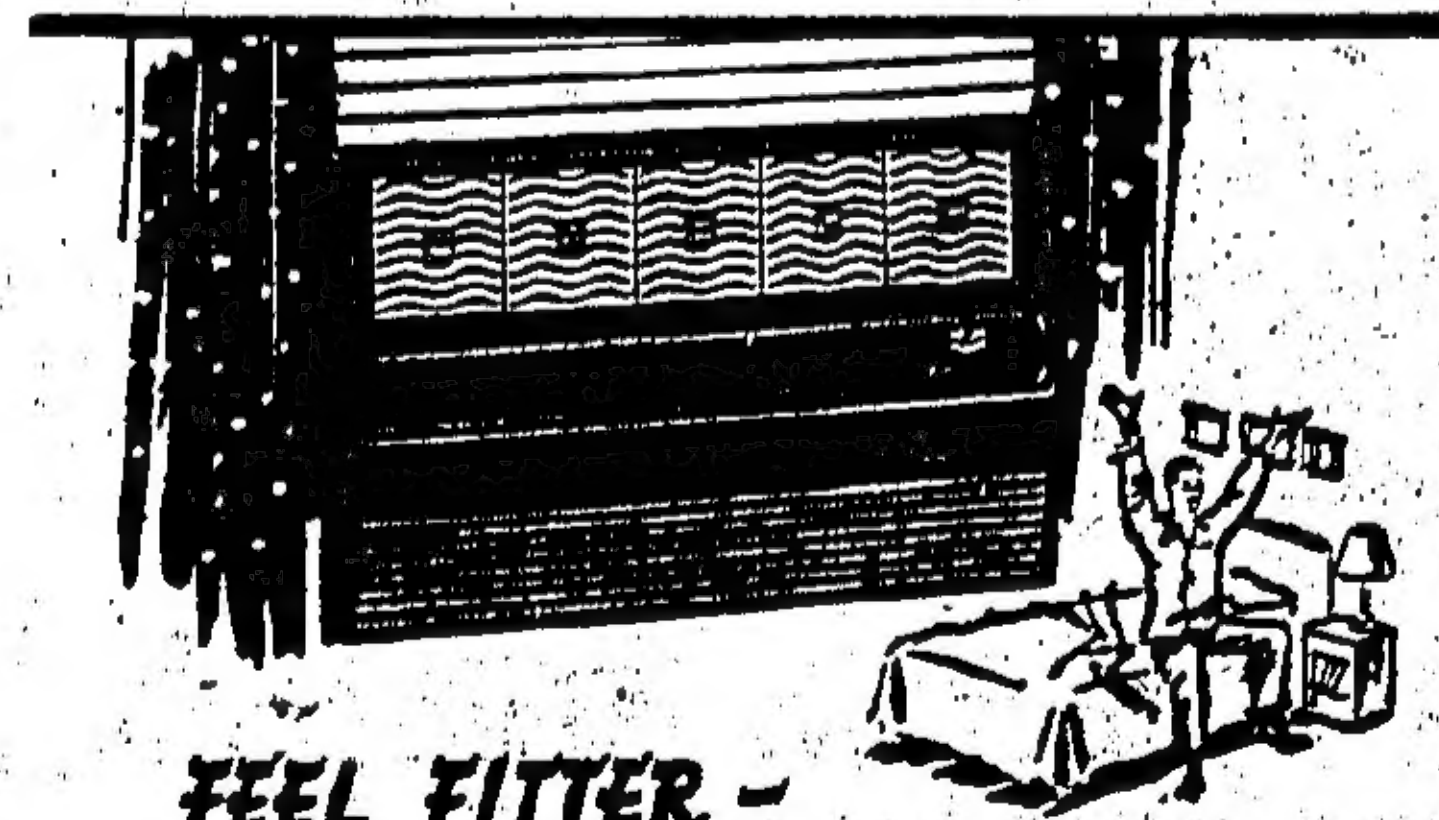
LIMITED STATUS

The World Veterans Federation formerly held a limited consultative status together with 100 other non-governmental organisations.

The Federation comprises 18 million veterans in 121 branch organisations scattered throughout 29 countries.

Its Honorary President, France's Ex-President Vincent Auriol, was expected to speak at a meeting of the Economic and Social Council this afternoon.

The Federation, which has its headquarters in Paris, will be permanently represented at the Council by M. Jacques Katel.—France-Press.



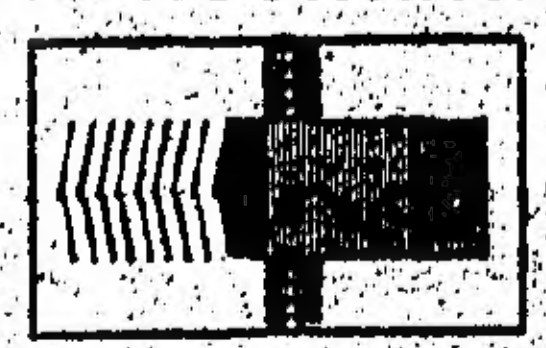
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GILMANS

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DID IT HAPPEN? ... by H. E. BATES

The INDUSTRIOUS ANTS

IN the summer of 1944, in Calcutta, five of us lived in a little room at the top of a jute mill. McAlister, Ogden, Kerensky, Whiteside and myself.

I flew into the hot blackness of India on a night in June, fresh to a big strange city, knowing nobody, needing friends. An iron staircase, like a fire escape, went up the outside of the jute mill to the third floor, and as I climbed it, lugging my bed-roll, I could feel the metal railing still warm on my hands.

In each corner of the room was a camp bed. Four beds, ghostly with mosquito netting, each under its own electric light, and then, in the centre, the five beds equidistant in isolation making a pattern like a five on a playing card.

The centre bed was empty. In three others the Americans, Ogden, Kerensky and Whiteside, were all reading, lying on their sides.

"Hello," I said. I liked to be friendly with Americans. "Good evening," I gave my name. "Any idea which bed is mine?"

Nobody answered. Only Kerensky, a big, yellow-haired man with a shaven neck, made a swift reluctant gesture with his head towards the centre bed and then turned over, propping himself on the other elbow.

"I'm supposed to report to McAlister," I said. "Where could I find him? He's supposed to fix me up."

"Out, I guess," that was Ogden. "Maybe on a session," that was Whiteside. I went out, shutting the door.

"Leave that damn door open!" somebody yelled. It was not until morning that I found McAlister. His bed had not been slept in.

"Maybe you'll find him with your crowd in Clive Street," Kerensky said. He was quite the nicest of the Americans; sometimes he even spoke two words where one would do. "That's where he works."

Pertified

At eight-thirty I got a lift in a truck, went down to Clive Street and waited for McAlister. The offices where McAlister worked were shoddy, small and hot. Men worked sweating under fans. About the corridors Indian service boys in khaki shorts, and a few others in crumpled dhotis, were waiting in a state of inscrutable bemusement for something to happen or someone to arrive.

They, too, it turned out, were waiting for McAlister. At eleven-thirty every Indian boy leapt stiffly to attention and

planned himself against the wall wherever he happened to be cowed, alarmed and petrified. A thin bony figure of 40, in Soviet shorts, with angular knees covered in crisp red hairs, strode aggressively past him, and presently a purring Scottish voice was scouring the air.

"All! Where the hell is Ali? Russell! Pilot Officer Russell! Ali—see this chit?—I'll stuff it down your damn throat if you don't sign it. Here, boy, here, you see? All chits must be signed—out! Out of my way! Russell!—Barrington!—where the hell has Russell gone?"

"And who are you?" he said to me. "What do you want?"

Another story which tests the problem—did it REALLY happen? These stories by famous people could be FACT or FICTION. The test is—can YOU detect the fiction from the fact?

At the last moment, not quite quickly enough, he looked at the tabs on my shoulder. There were three of them: exactly like his own.

When I told him who I was his pale, beady eyes jumped about between reddish lids, the whites bloodshot with sleeplessness, and he said:

"You know you should have been here yesterday? You know that? Everybody was expecting you!"

"I was here yesterday," I said. "Maybe, maybe," he said. "But did you report? Did you report?"

"It was late," I tried to speak calmly. "There was," I said, "nobody to report to. I couldn't find you—"

"You should have reported, man!" he said. "You should have reported!"

It was not, I felt, a very good beginning. In the heat of India, in the low suffocating oven of Bengal, good beginnings are important. From bad beginnings, in fact, to see more and more of McAlister because, in a sense, you could not live without him.

McAlister was King. McAlister was Lord of Administration: in-traits, out-traits, leave-forms, allowances, drivers, trucks, jeeps, chits—chits for petrol and rations, chits for pay and transport, chits for everything.

Gradually it became clear to me that McAlister, the possessor of us all, possessed the keys to other things.

"Some of these little nurses that come down from Burma"—in his hard, cryptic Scottish way he always pronounced it Bumma—"are a bit of all right. Some of them are quite fast wee lassies. And they're hungry too when they come down after being up there so long—they're very hungry, I'm telling you."

"And are you hungry, too?" I said once, "or do you always prefer to be thirsty?"

I could see he didn't like that; but he had a good reply.

"I don't have to be hungry," he said. "They know they can't move without me. If they want to fly back to Burma it's me they have to see. And if they don't want to fly back to Burma—you know, not for another day and a night or two—they know who to come to."

His sessions

Perhaps a soberer man would not have confided these things. But McAlister, as Whiteside had remarked, was fond of sessions. His sessions consisted of seeing the down-up with fellow Scotsmen, mostly leather-skinned jute-men from Dundee, and very occasional Americans, over bottles of Scotch and rye.

It was after one of these sessions that he said to me:

"There's a wee nurse named Margaret coming down from Chittagong next week. She's not much to look at—but you know it's often the ugliest lassies that have the nicest figures. She's not much of a face, but she's a nice plump pair of—"

I broke in on this catalogue of the hidden virtues of nurses to remind him that he had promised me a flight to Akyab.

"I'm minding it," he said, "but you'll have to be patient, going over for a day or two. And they're half eaten by ants again. You wouldn't want to be bunged in one of the old Warwick's, would you? You must be patient, man."

"I'm in your hands," I said. "Disillusioned"

There came into Calcutta, a day or two later, the nurse named Margaret. She was a nice girl, small, plain and undistinguished, with an unattractive pallor and dark-rimmed eyes not improved by a year of Burma sun. She seemed tired and disillusioned about something, and I did not think she seemed hungry for anything except perhaps cream cakes and a well-cooked plate of eggs and bacon.

Nurses on leave were quarantined in another part of the jute mill, and one morning after a week or more, I gave her a lift in a Jeep that, with some bluff and a little patience, I had extracted from McAlister.

From the window of our crowded little room on the third floor I had seen her waiting for some time in the compound, in the blazing sun.

"Thank you very much," she said as she climbed in. "I was beginning to feel quite faint out there."

The fare

Somehow I had gained the impression that she was Scots, and I told her so.

"Scots? Don't insult me," she said. "I'm English—English to the bone. Scots, my God."

"Don't like the Scots?" I said. "Loathe them," she said. "This place is full of them. Ooh! and aye! and will ye and will ye not—I hate them."

It seemed to me that there was possibly more in her affronted English voice than a



Drawing by KOOLOMAN

In the hot shades the stood there glaring. His eyes were bloodshot with hatred.

nothing going up there for days."

"Who says so?"

"He does, Lord God Almighty."

She did not look merely tired and dispirited. She, too, had made a bad beginning, and now the ants were in her brain.

"Better come and have a drink," I said.

I managed to take her into a bar where bugs did not bite us. After three drinks I thought she would cry. Instead, she gripped the arms of the wicker chair and said:

"He just does it to frustrate me. He knows he could get me away tomorrow if—but I've been had once, and I won't be had again. Not by him, anyway. Not if the war goes on till Doomsday."

"I think somebody," I said, "will have to speak to our friend McAlister."

Next day, I walked into McAlister's shady, fan-cooled office and said:

"Anything going up to Chittagong?"

"A Dak this morning and a Beaufort this afternoon," he said. "Why? You want to go to Akyab?"

"Put Margaret on the Dak," I said.

"Raw nerves"

His normally red baldish head went white; the hair quivering under the fan.

"Nurses on leave have no priority," he said. "Priority, my foot."

"Aye, priority," he said. "Both airplanes are full. They've been full for days. I've even two Group Captains waiting."

"Let them wait," I said. "Put her on the Dak."

In the hot shades, under the whirling fan, we stood there glaring. His eyes were bloodshot with hatred. I hated him too, and his nerves were raw. There was nothing much to say and I said it as simply, briefly and succinctly as I could.

That afternoon she flew up to Chittagong. Two mornings later McAlister sent a chit for me to go to his office. With intense blue eyes formidably he said:

"Can you be ready this afternoon? There's a Dak going to Akyab at 14.00 hours."

HAVE FUN, SAYS ELSA

By Douglas Clark

London. It is a mysterious affair, this quarrel. In 1931 he Duchess was throwing Elsa a stately compliment. "We find her charming and she amuses us with the funny stories she invariably has to tell." Then suddenly—a terrible frolic, each avoiding the other at parties, each stiffly surrounded by her separate coterie.

Chunky little Elsa Maxwell is coming to stay.

The hostess with the mostes on the ball is tripping over from the Continent to attend, among other things, a London luncheon which will officially launch her autobiography, "I Married The World."

It will be a worthwhile sight to see Miss Maxwell bouncing into The Boltons. I rate her, at 72, in physique and character, the nearest human approach to a rubber ball. Standing just over 5ft. weighing 14st. 4lb. she is quite round. And she bounces ceaselessly.

Miss Maxwell is not to be numbered, like the orange, among California's more tasteless exports. She is a girl of rich, full flavour. She started life, as everybody knows, a humble pianist in a silent cinema; but the pianola is more in her line. She is non-stop and noisy.

In the swim.

IN the social swim, some go under and others float lifelessly: Miss Maxwell forges onward with a sturdy crawl.

With endless energy she hunts out her lions. "Elsa knows Augustus John so well that she calls him Augustus Jack." With relentless vitality she flings together the high-born and the merely talented.

In the cosmopolitan social set she combines the driving force of a bulldozer with the pulling power of Rasputin.

What does Miss Maxwell like best? Gruffly, repeatedly, she tells us. "Fun—that is the important thing. Have fun."

But there have been times ("I prefer intellectual outlets for my energy") when her life has gone out a deeper, graver note.

As when she expressed her fervent hope for the future of the British Empire. ("Boy, I want to see it saved!")

As in that still, pregnant moment after last year's performance of "The Frog" when royalty came backstage to talk to its glittering amateur cast. ("I was not present.")

And as, of course, all through her sombre quarrel with the Duchess of Windsor, which has caused gossip for two years.

For there is something else they can all be grateful to her for.

She treats them without the slightest trace of condescension.

Aloof

WAS there a reconciliation last spring? Many thought so. Noel Coward, it was said, was the exquisitely tactful go-between. But presto, in July there were the Duchess and Elsa at another party, coolly aloof again in opposite corners. And the reason for it all? Elsa is wordily uninformative.

"I will only say one thing about the Duchess. I think she was wrong—terribly wrong—not to have accepted the responsibility of history. That is all I have to say."

What is it that has lifted this tireless little Californian, unaided by the advantages of birth or beauty, to her unrivalled position as queen of party-givers, as boss of the social whirl?

Perhaps the answer is that she does for the international smart set what Wilfred Pickles does for the British proletariat.

She gives the depressed class of the Almanach de Gotha a sense of importance and well being.

She has the trick of investing her party gimmicks with enormous meaning.

She can turn the act of milking champagne from the udders of an artificial cow at New York's Waldorf-Astoria into a gesture of social significance.

Busy bouncing

SO, busily bouncing between Paris and Cannes, London and Rome, Miss Maxwell goes about her humane tasks of restoring the self-confidence of the Almanach's distressed families. She is the Florence Nightingale of Europe's Upper Set. But where does the cash come from? "I'm allergic to money," she confesses.

Her autobiography gives more guidance. It seems that hotels and restaurants everywhere are so anxious to capitalise on the publicity which her patronage brings them that she may have few living expenses to meet at all.

If it is true that she gets her fun all found nobody in the Maxwell set is ever likely to complain.

For there is something else they can all be grateful to her for.

She treats them without the slightest trace of condescension.

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DON IDDON'S DIARY

New York, Tuesday. WHEN I got back to New York my doctor telephoned and said: "While

you have been away there have been all sorts of developments and confusion regarding the Salk polio vaccine. Do you still want Diana to be inoculated?"

Diana, my younger daughter, is aged eight. I told the doctor that I would have to check further before the child's mother and I could make a decision. Millions of parents are doing the same thing—checking and worrying.

All over the country there is a dreadful fear that something has gone seriously wrong with the production of the vaccine which was to rout and perhaps conquer infantile paralysis. Dr Jonas Salk, the scientist who developed the serum, has remained calm, confident, and I think, a little contemptuous of the politics-playing that is going on. Possibly he has made too many speeches and it might have been better if he had remained in his laboratory as he originally planned.

The way that the Salk vaccine has been handled from the beginning has not been impressive.

IN THE NEWS: THE POLIO VACCINE ROW AND RISE IN TEENAGE CRIME

The announcement itself in Ann Arbor, Michigan, was like a Hollywood or Broadway premiere—a sort of super-social occasion, Klieg-lit and with an array of television and news-reel cameras present.

At the time several scientists criticised the gaudy publicity set-up and high-pressure business tactics.

Since the announcement there has been one mix-up after another. The most serious critic of some of the companies manufacturing the Salk vaccine is the columnist Walter Winchell.

Winchell is sometimes sensational, but he is more often right than wrong. I listened to him the other night and after he had described the margin for error in the Salk vaccine, I decided that this was not the time to have my child inoculated.

There is harrowing worry for tens of thousands of parents whose children have already been injected with the vaccine.

Commercialism

THE Salk story has also been tainted by cynical commercialism. Some doctors have been charging \$10 for a \$2 shot of the serum, and there have been incidents of doctors in New York and other cities inoculating adults for high fees ignoring the law that children must come first. There has been a stock market boom in the shares of certain of the manufacturers.

The Salk story could be explosive politically and the Administration has been evasive,

confused, and contradictory in some of its statements.

Representative Emanuel Celler alleges that Surgeon-General Leonard Scheele's reappraisal of vaccine expediency "stirred up a witch's brew of uncertainty and confusion." Senator Warren Magnuson says: "I want a full report on all steps taken to straighten out the irresponsible muddle in handling the Salk vaccine."

And Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and a great friend of the late Franklin Roosevelt, who was himself a polio victim comments: "I can find nothing in the Surgeon-General's voluminous report that gives any sound scientific reason for suspending the inoculations."

But suspended they are, pending a new check.

New York City Mayor Robert Wagner hopes to start inoculations soon.

The mayor's desk is piled high with problems. There has been an outbreak of juvenile delinquency, the brutal, senseless murder of a 15-year-old boy, Billy Blankenship, and a wave of boganism by mobs of boys and girls.

I was surprised when I parked my car in 88th Street, between Park and Lexington Avenues, yesterday, and a cop said: "I wouldn't leave your automobile there, buddy—it's liable to get marked up."

The policeman told me that gangs of youths had been going around the neighbourhood with knives and nails, mutilating the paintwork and tyres of cars and ripping the canvas tops of convertibles.

"The girls are sometimes worse than the boys," he said. "There were schoolgirl mobs tearing the murderer of Billy Blankenship and demonstrating outside the funeral parlour. These young punks should be put in jail."

Last Sunday Mayor Wagner pledged an all-out fight on teenage crime. He plans to spend \$3,000,000 over the next three years. If Wagner doesn't succeed more parents like the Blankenships are going to consider leaving New York City for good.

Housing stunt

NEW YORK today is no place to bring up children. More and more people are moving out to the suburbs, to Long Island, to Westchester and Connecticut, and across the Hudson River to New Jersey.

Because of the demands of my job I have to live in Manhattan, right in the heart of New York City. The day I returned from Nevada my landlord informed me that the apartment building in which I live is "going co-operative."

This means that tenants have to buy their apartments or else by putting down a lump sum of money, as well as pay monthly maintenance charges, which are in most instances about three-quarters of the previous rent.

When a tenant leaves a co-operative building he sells his apartment (or tries to). If property is booming he makes a profit on his initial investment, and if property is in a slump he takes a loss.

I have lived in ten different apartment houses during my time here, and have moved twice as buildings became co-operative. Now I think I shall say put.

My trip back from Las Vegas took only eight hours flying time, and I stopped off in Chicago, one of my favourite cities, for a couple of hours.

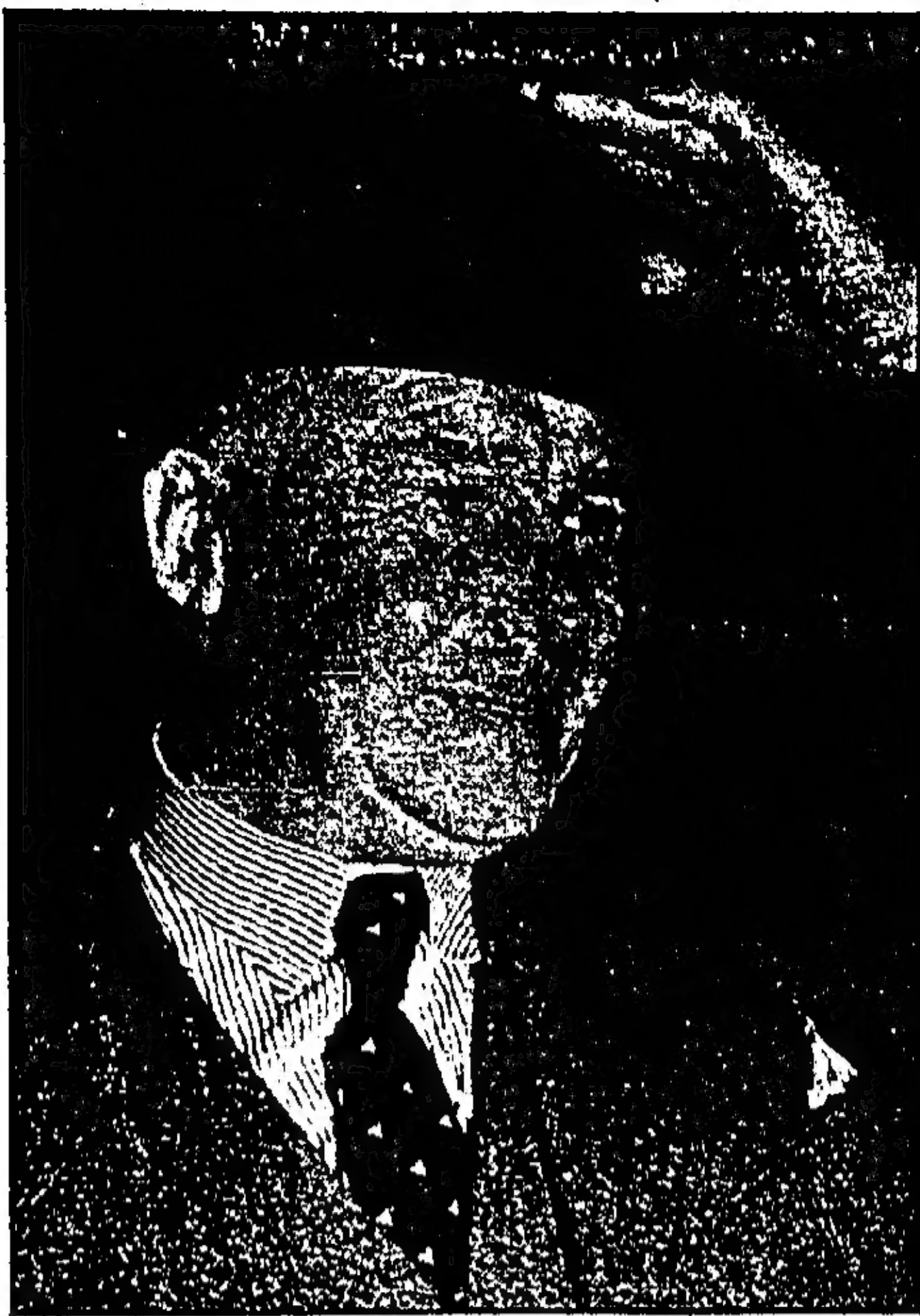
The Americans are wonderfully efficient in running their domestic airlines. The service is superb, and the latest planes, particularly the DC-7 in which I flew from New York to Chicago in two hours (we had a tail wind of 50 m.p.h.), are magnificent aircraft.

An airline official told me that the British Viscounts are even better. The Americans have been exceedingly generous with the publicity they have lavished upon the Viscount—in fact, they rhapsodised about it.

There are several letters from readers regarding my dispatches from Nevada, particularly about Las Vegas. I hope I did not overdo my criticisms of the gambling town. During the last few days there I met some of the local residents—good, hard-working Americans with small earnings who shun the casinos, the bars and the call-girls.

There are 45 churches in Las Vegas, and their pastors say they are battling sin. I wonder why Billy Graham, who has done so much good for so many people, doesn't carry his crusade to his own Nevada. There is a very big job to be done—surely a bigger one than in Scotland or in England.

On my last day in Las Vegas I met a showgirl in the Lib-



Stanley Seymour

STANLEY SEYMOUR IS THE ODD MAN OUT AMONG FOOTBALL DIRECTORS

They call him Mr Cheque Book, Mr Newcastle United, Mr Soccer Dictator.

"They can call me whatever they like," says Mr Stanley Seymour, chairman of Newcastle United, who, against Manchester City, won their third Cup Final at Wembley in five years.

"I'm Newcastle United. First, second, and last. Nothing else matters to me."

And you have to strain your ears to catch his Geordie accent. Seymour, 62 years old this month, a bowler hat covering his bald head, has come up the hard way—he began as a player. Fourteen years after he had scored a goal for Newcastle from the left wing in the Wembley Cup Final of 1924 against Aston Villa, United were in the financial and playing dumps. They had just missed relegation to the Third Division; were "in the red" for something like £20,000.

Seymour was invited to join the Newcastle board of directors. As if by magic the Club's fortunes rocketed sky high. The team gained promotion to the First Division, the debt was wiped out and the Club became the richest in the land.

Seymour spent £300,000 on new players, sold others for £170,000. He bought modern houses for most of them.

Soccer boomed in Newcastle. Win or lose, gates averaged 50,000, a figure not bettered by Arsenal.

Seymour is the odd man out among football directors. He wants the players to have more money.

"Give the cup-winners £100 each, £50 if they draw, and £25 for the losers. Then we shall have gone a long way to helping players resist the urge to make money on the tickets they get."

LIFE-SAVING ACT

Season by season since he performed the life-saving act for Newcastle, Seymour has had to fight back against his detractors. He has been charged with overplaying his hand as United's No. 1 guide, counsellor, and master tactician, with having little time for the opinions of his directors, with having pet players.

One player answers that one with "Nonsense. It's unfair to a great football character, a clever man, a just man. Seymour is the player's friend. I walk miles for the man."

Before the start of the present season Seymour came out with a broadside against what he called the "stragglers".

"There have been far too many in almost every team in the past few seasons. We must get rid of them. No Club can afford them."

He got away with that one. He defied shareholders who protested against the withdrawal of free season tickets. He quashed charges that he tried to get rid of Frank Brennan, Newcastle's Scottish international centre half, because Brennan had set up in opposition to him as a sports-cum-fitter.

He defied a fellow-director, Alderman William McKelvey, twice Lord Mayor of Newcastle, who demanded a special meeting of directors to unravel "the Brennan mystery".

IRATE FANS

Seymour took in his stride a resolution of "no confidence" in the directors passed by 2,400 irate fans at a mass meeting.

Last season he snubbed a Cinderella club, Wigan Athletic, when he refused to allow his players to strip in what he called an inadequate dressing-room. And he snubbed the Mayor of Wigan who had invited the Newcastle party to join after the Cup replay between the teams.

He got away with that too. What happened? A few months later he was invited by the Wigan club to open their new £20,000 stand.

Seymour too has often defied the might of the Football Association, Soccer's bosses. Before the 1951 Cup Final against Blackpool the FA suggested that the goalkeepers should wear special peak caps.

"What do you think?" Seymour asked Jack Fairbrother,

the Newcastle goalkeeper. You'd rather wear your own old cap, wouldn't you?"

"Right. Never mind the FA idea to make you posh. Wear your own cap."

Recently a well-known sports writer attacked a ban on admission to the players' dressing rooms at Newcastle's ground, St James' Park and referred to the "iron curtain" there.

Seymour's reply to that? "One? Two tickets from his personal

allotment for this year's Cup Final, and an invitation to the celebration banquet afterwards."

Now what can you do about a man like that?

BEHIND-THE-SCENES

Note For Women Fans:

Seymour's wife Letty never misses a match. "She always has two bags packed—one for me when I am going away and the other when I return and start off on another football journey."

—London Express Service.

HMS Modeste Boxers Win Red Duster Trophy

By OUR BOXING REPORTER

There were great goings on at the Missions to Seamen last night when a big crowd of boxing enthusiasts gathered to see the last Red Duster Smoker of the season, but as things turned out, they saw a great deal more than just the Red Duster match.

Variety was the keynote of the evening and there was a touch of San Francisco about the proceedings when 'Rocky' Chan pushed his bulk through the ropes to do battle with Young 'Iron' Bucks.

Rocky was first in the ring but his show of cocky confidence did nothing to upset the placid performance of his rival whose acknowledgment of the plaudits of the crowd was in the best traditions of the ring... even if he found difficulty in lifting the large gloves above his head.

This was a mighty 'Gnat' Weight match and although neither contestant quite reached as high as the second rope they put on a fine show for the fans. It was a very clean fight and at the end even the paternal pride of old stager Ramsey Bucks couldn't find any criticism of the decision.... a draw.

The Red Duster Trophy was won by HMS Modeste, whose boxers scored 12 points to 9 gained by the fighters of 72 L.A.A. Regt. RA. There were seven bouts in this match and here are the results. The Royal Navy boxers are named first.

AB Mason beat L/Bdr. Smith on points.

AB Brockway beat Gnr. Langley on points.

AB Rawlings beat Gnr. France on points.

AB Harris lost to Gnr. Kearney on points.

SM Evans beat Gnr. Roberts on points.

OS Henson lost to Gnr. Honeyman on points.

AB Jennings beat Gnr. Forrester on points.

A special Middle Weight match between John Evans (St. George's School) and David Gordon-Smith (Penk School) produced interesting entertainment but no clear cut decision. A draw however leaves the way open for some enterprising

promoter to re-match these two young warriors.

IRISH AGAINST IRISH

The Irish and the Welsh were in action too but in the best interests of international relations the promoters wisely set the Irish against the Irish and the Welsh against the Welsh. In the first of these national shinnings Pat Murphy ('The Kilkenny Cat') sharpened his claws to do battle with Mike Kelly ('The Killer of Kilkenny'); in the second bout 'The Tontony Terror', Taffy Evans, squared up to Yanko Jones, 'The Maesteg Mauler'.

There was so much 'hale' in these bouts that the contestants simply couldn't stand the sight of each other and all four of them were 'blinded'. It was grand fun. Honour was maintained all round for both contests ended in a draw... in spite of the referee joining in.

Just to make the evening a really memorable one there was a boxing match between competing HMS Consorts, 72 L.A.A. Regt. RA, and the Royal Air Force.

A pleasant ceremony took place during the evening when, in recognition of his grand service to boxing at the Missions, C.P.O. Jim Horner, R.N., was presented with a silver cigarette case.

Mr Herrett leaves the Colony soon and we join with the boxing fans in saying "Thank you, Jim, for a fine job. Safe sailing wherever you go..."

Once again congratulations to Rev. Bill Haig-Brown and his assistants for some excellent entertainment that was in the best tradition of the Missions.

PAPERWEIGHTS



Two paperweights, Rocky Chan (left) and "Young Iron" Bucks trading punches in last night's Boxing Smoker at the Missions to Seamen. — China Mail Photo.

South Africans All Out For 268 Against Cambridge University

Cambridge, May 18.

The South Africans were all out for 268 at the close of play today in their match against Cambridge University here.

The South Africans failed to press home their excellent start, with the middle batsmen collapsing against the varied Cambridge attack.

The tourists were all out in the last over of the day for 268. At tea they were 180 for two. Cambridge fielded their strongest side of the season so far, which included eight blues.

The best South African stand was that between Jackie McGlew and John Waite, who for the first time in the tour made the opening wicket partnership worth more than 100 runs.

They took exactly two hours to reach three figures.

Waite was the more aggressive of the two but was the first to go, caught at backward short-leg off Singh after making 78.

McGlew was clean bowled for 85 in the last over before tea, by Singh.—Reuters.

LEAGUE TENNIS

Results of League Tennis matches yesterday were:

MEN'S A DIVISION

CCC Beat SCAC 6-3
Tad. Yoo-pui and Paul Wal-pui (CCC) lost to Jo Koon-hung and Patrick Poon 1-6; beat Edwin Tai and K. C. Dao 6-1; beat Tony Liang and S. W. Kuo 6-2.
T. Wang and Dr. George Chea (CCC) lost to Poon 2-6; beat Tai and Dao 6-2; beat Liang and Kuo 6-3.

LADIES' B DIVISION

CCC Beat LRC 6-3
Mrs H. Lo and Mrs E. Tso (CCC) beat Mrs D.L. Prophet and Mrs G. Brower 6-3; beat Mrs C.L. Hill and Mrs B.A. Presti 6-3; beat Mrs Brandt and Mrs E. Strunk 6-3.
Mrs A. Choy and Miss Y. Tsai (CCC) beat Prophet and Brower 6-2; beat Hill and Presti 6-4; beat Brandt and Strunk 6-1.

CCC Beat SCAC 5-4

Mrs T. Souza and Miss S. Poon (CCC) beat Mrs S. C. Poon and Mrs S. Sook 2-6; beat Mrs H. Dao and Miss E. Chai 6-4; beat Mrs Dao and Miss E. Chai 6-4.

Mixed A

Mrs S. Souza and Miss S. Poon (CCC) beat Poon and Sook 6-3; beat Dao and Chai 6-1; beat Dao and Chai 6-1.

CCC Beat KGV 6-3

S. Roomelet and M. Finches (CCC) beat S. Henson and A. Ridgely 6-3; beat S. Shekury and S. Shekury 6-3; beat S. Shekury and S. Shekury 6-3.

A. Liang and A. Oel (CCC) beat

Henson and Ridgely 6-1; beat Poon and Sook 6-3; beat Dao and Chai 6-1; beat Dao and Chai 6-1.

HKCC Beat Urban 1-6

Heenan and Sautelle (HKCC) lost to W. K. Chung and C. S. Cheng 1-6; lost to W. K. Chung and S. Sook 4-6; beat K. M. Getz and G. J. 6-1.

Buckenham-Walsh and Macleod (HKCC) lost to W. K. Chung and C. S. Cheng 3-6; lost to W. K. Chung and S. Sook 4-6; beat K. M. Getz and G. J. 6-1.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society (HKCC) lost to W. K. Chung and C. S. Cheng 3-6; lost to W. K. Chung and S. Sook 4-6; beat K. M. Getz and G. J. 6-1.

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SPORTING SAM

By Reg. Wootton



THE CANNES FESTIVAL

Against Hollywood's Big Guns, Italy Replied With Shapely Ammunition

By HENRY THODY

For a week I have been living the wild-life of Hollywood—on the sun-drenched Riviera, with the world's top movie stars, directors, producers.

I have drunk champagne with Grace Kelly, swum with Van Johnson, played roulette with Broderick Crawford, thrown carnations in the Battle of Flowers with Doris Day, taken my morning constitutional with Sir Carol Reed (talking of our mutual friend and favourite Gina Lollobrigida)—and seen movies until my head spun.

It has been a fabulous week of champagne and caviar—from breakfast until the early hours. It has been, quite simply, (or rather fantastically) the Cannes festival.

NEVER WORKS HARDER. The movie world never works harder than at the Cannes Film Festival. I personally am exhausted. I know Grace Kelly and all are too.

This year 37 nations gathered at Cannes to fight for one of the coveted annual awards which is a guarantee to extra box-office millions to the winning film industry.

Every country's movie industry worked overtime to promote their latest films and stars to the maximum, with the exception (need I say it?) of Britain.

The Americans flew in their top stars, and entertained lavishly. Against Hollywood's big guns, Italy replied with such shapely ammunition as the fabulous Gina and the curvaceous Sophia Loren. France sent its most handsome male screen saviors, Japan its unbelievably fascinating kimonoed stars.

Britain, of course, did not send a single female star, or actor known internationally. Fortunately, we sent one film which set the festival talking—Sir Carol Reed's new all-colour, sure-hit, "A Kid For Two Farthings."

Thumbing through my festival diary I find the films which had the black-head festival audiences on their feet widely applauding were—Britain's A Kid For Two Farthings, America's Merry (Betty Blair), Country Girl (Grace Kelly and Bing Crosby) and East of Eden, directed by Elia (Tramway) Kazan, introducing Hollywood's newest male sensation, James Dean, and France's toughest of all tough films, A Brul Among Men, directed by Jules Dassin.

All these are potential prize-winners. But I also saw a score of films whose titles I no longer recall.

One single day I received invitations to see eight new films, ranging from a banned Yugoslav film (it was beastly to the Germans) to a Rod Chinese opera, was invited to meet Grace Kelly, have a glass of champagne with Sir Carol Reed, attend a cocktail party given by the Japanese and a midnight dinner party by the Mexicans.

DIDN'T MISS KELLY

I must confess that that day I missed some of the eight films, but I didn't miss Grace Kelly. I was often to get such a lovely girl insisting she buys you a drink at a sidewalk cafe?

It was the remark of Miss Kelly, Oscar-winner, that made this correspondent's festival "My, how beautiful," she said, referring to my very British handkerchief moultache.

Other jottings from my Cannes diary—Gina Lollobrigida hit town like a Nevada A-burst for a few hours. The Aga Khan quickly took possession of her, but she found time to join me in a coffee and tell me, "You know what I have to do every morning before breakfast? Swing from a bying trapeze which has been fixed up in my garden. You have no idea how silly I feel. Thank heavens the neighbours cannot see me." Gina shortly begins work on a circus film with Burt Lancaster.

I prevented Sir Carol Reed from being kept out of the festival cinema where his film was being given a world premier. He went into a door where he did not have a ticket and—lacking sufficient French—could not get in. My French helped.

I liked the way Dawn Addams, the British girl who married a real life Roman prince and became a star in Italian movies, has remained oh-so-British. I liked too, her silver, ear-rings, shaped like fish. "I only wear them on Fridays."

I liked the modesty of Britain's handsome, super-muscle-man and champion wrestler Joe Robinson, a bit in A Kid For Two Farthings, when mobbed by girls and photographers who hailed him as Monsieur Beefcake, 1955.

Joe liked his first visit to Cannes and asked the local tourists' office if they could recommend a reasonable hotel to take a holiday. When every big hotel in Cannes would have been willing to offer him free accommodation.

I liked the way Hollywood's wealthiest producer, Sam (Waterfront) Spiegel, fat, balding, but bouncing, has learnt to kiss the ladies' hands, with a dash of Latin.

I liked Hollywood's also fabulous, money-coming Mike (Todd) Scope and War & Peace's Todd's reply to an admirer who said, "You know, Mike, I bet if you put your heart in it—you could even become President of the United States!"

Mr Todd, of Hollywood, California, deadly serious, replied, "Now, not me—the job don't pay well."

I liked the way Van Johnson, sun-burnt and frolicked, smiled at the ten thousandth boy-scout to ask for his autograph—when he was trying to get to dinner—as if she were the only girl in his life. The teen-ager walked away in a complete daze. And so it went on—handsome men, beautiful girls, champagne, films and more films.

The Russians smiled at the Americans and the Americans slapped the Russians on the back. The French were nice to the Germans, the Israelis to the Egyptians.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of Voting Members will be held at the Club House, Happy Valley, on Thursday, 26th May, 1955, at 5.45 p.m. for the purposes of receiving the Reports of the Clerk of the Course and the Stewards, of considering, and if thought fit, passing the accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1955, and of re-appointing the Auditors.

All members are cordially invited to attend and participate in any discussion which may ensue. They are invited to forward to the secretary in writing at least seven days before the meeting is due to take place, any matters which they may wish to bring up for discussion.

By order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 16th May, 1955.

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Sports Diary

TODAY

Men's "B" Div: KCC v CRC; KCCFA v Recreation; LRC v CCCC(1); HKU v SCAC; OSCRC v HKCC; CCC(2) v RAY; Ladies "A" Div: LRC v Recreation; USC(1) v USC(2); Soccer: HKCFA Summer Soccer League: Sing Tao v Kwong Wah (Caroline Hill) 8 p.m.

TOMORROW

Soccer: C.F.A. Summer League starts. Sun Ching v Eastern at Caroline Hill 8 p.m.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family of the late Mr. F. P.
Franklin, the Directors and Staff
of the South China Morning Post,
Ltd., wish to express their very
deep appreciation and thanks to
all those who have sent messages
of sympathy and condolence to
the late Mr. F. P. Franklin.
They would also thank all those
who attended the funeral and
forwarded donations to various
charities.

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Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"S. CHANG" 179-180 May, 1955

Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas at 10 a.m. on Saturday
May 20 and 21, 1955, and con-
signees are requested to be present during
survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents,
Australian-oriental Line Ltd.
The China Navigation Co., Ltd.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

PERHUS

Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Paulsen &
Bayer-Davies at 10 a.m. on Saturday
May 20 and 21, 1955, and con-
signees are requested to have their
representatives present during the
survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents,
Hong Kong, May 18, 1955.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CYCLOPS

Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas at 10 a.m. on Saturday
May 20 and 21, 1955, and con-
signees are requested to have their
representatives present during the
survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents,
Hong Kong, May 18, 1955.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD
Space for commercial
advertising should be
booked not later than
noon on Wednesday.

For the SOUTH CHINA
MORNING POST and the
CHINA MAIL, 48 hours
before date of publication.
Special Announcements
and Classified Advertisements
as usual.

ILLICIT DIAMOND DIGGING A MAJOR HEADACHE

Freetown, Sierra Leone, May 18.
The early morning train from Bo, heading
towards Kenema, is crowded with Africans each
carrying a pick and shovel.

They are off to dig, illicitly, for diamonds.
Each one hopes to make his fortune in a day.

During the last two years, illicit diamond digging has become a major headache in Sierra Leone, one of the four British territories along the West Coast of Africa.

Bo is 180 miles from the city port of Freetown. It has dusty roads, mud huts and quite a colony of European administrators.

The train runs on a 2-foot 6-inch gauge and the overhanging wooden coaches, with no glass in the windows, look as though they are going to fall off the wheels.

Africans, some with shorts and shirts, some with only shorts and almost all walking as they walk from birth, without shoes, pack themselves in.

A tiny squeak from the whistle and the train winds off at a steady 19 miles an hour, over rivers and through country covered with bush.

Diamonds have been dug commercially in the country since 1932, and a British company have an agreement with the Government for the exclusive digging rights.

All went well as long as it appeared that there were only diamonds in a limited area—the area the company was already mining.

But then, a couple of years ago, an African digging in another part of the country turned over some moderate sized gems. The word went round and it was long before everyone was in this get-rich-quick game.

HUNDREDS DIGGING
In areas such as around Kenema, there may be hundreds digging in marshy land. Some work alone, others in gangs. Often, there are whole families at it. Some find can bring \$2,000 to \$3,000 overnight. But sometimes the diamonds bring trouble.

Recently, a gang of three Africans were digging together when two of them became suspicious. They thought the third had found a diamond without telling them. So in a nice quiet spot they forested they killed him and sure enough in his stomach they found a nice sized diamond.

If they had hidden the body and told his family that he had disappeared, their crime would probably have gone undetected. But, perhaps, conscience-stricken, they gave his mother \$200 from the proceeds. She became suspicious and brought the police in. Later, the two men were hanged.

The fact that it is illegal to possess diamonds does not worry anyone. There are plenty of people acting as agents who, for the 500 per cent profit to be made, are quite willing to take the risk of smuggling the diamonds out of the country.

One major channel for them is through the Middle East to the Iron Curtain countries, although a lot are also going to America.

The problem has worried the Diamond Corporation, who control the flow of diamonds and hence their market price. So much that they have had the former Scotland Yard chief, Sir Percy Sillitoe, investigating the smuggling privately for them.

CASH FOR CAR
Once he gets the money for his diamonds, the African spends it. Often illicitly, he is quite capable of walking into the office of the nearest agent and paying cash down for a Humber Super Snipe.

This happened one day, and the new owner, who could not drive and would not be told, put his foot on the accelerator, let the clutch in with a bang and wrapped the car round a tree 50 yards down the road. Two days later, he bought another one.

On a smaller scale, they never buy a friend a drink. They buy him a crate of 48 bottles of beer.

For those who go digging—and estimates suggest that there are 20,000 at it—there is no way of marking out the land. They go to an area in which diamonds have been found, often along a river bed, and pick their spot. One group may work within a few feet of the next group.

Some just scratch over the soil, others dig down to four or five feet, sifting the soil and watching all the time for rather dull and uninteresting looking bits of glass which are, in fact, uncut diamonds.

The people who cannot keep their good fortune to themselves when they make a find usually get a number of other diggers moving close up to them.

Stories of how diamonds are taken out of the country are legion and not necessarily accurate. The police have a number of theories which they can-

not put to the test because of the great length of Sierra Leone's border compared with the all-too-few police.

Checks at the airport and the wharf, are very thorough but even so some must get through. Occasionally, there are court cases and the penalties for merely being in possession of diamonds are particularly heavy, with a maximum of five years' imprisonment and a fine of \$5,000.

But still many diamonds get across the border, probably into Liberia and French territory. In the border area, there are no motorable roads, but plenty of footpaths.

It is possible, too, and it has almost certainly happened on one occasion, for an aeroplane to land in a flat stretch of cleared shrubland, stay for a few hours, and take off again with quite a valuable cargo of diamonds. But the police in Freetown do not support the story and there is a regular smuggling service, every Sunday, working to a strict time schedule.

Many plans have been put forward to reduce illicit diamond mining, which costs the country an estimated \$500,000 last year in lost taxation and which is upsetting the traditional farming economy.

One way, some authorities think, would be to give licences to African diggers and offer a price for diamonds brought in, about as attractive as they can get now for smuggling their diamonds.

Certainly, at the moment, the idea of trying their luck with a pick and shovel is very tempting to an increasingly large number of people.—China Mail Special.



Pictured here are the Old and the New World meeting on the tarmac at RAF Khormaksar, Aden, during the recent visit of Bomber Command Canberra from "Scampton (Lincolnshire, England) to the Middle East Air Force for a month's training. Here a Canberra of No. 21 Squadron is surrounded by men of the Aden Protectorate Levies' Camel Troop. The Levies are recruited from Western Aden Protectorate tribesmen, and serve under the RAF Regiment. Four ground servicing airmen complete the picture.—Express Photo.

EXPORT SUBSIDY FOR TEA

Colombo, May 18.

Premier Sir John Kotelawala today announced a new temporary Government export subsidy scheme to aid the tea market. The new scheme comes into effect from next Tuesday's auctions and replaces the Government purchasing scheme which has been in operation during the last three weeks.

The export duty will still remain unchanged at one rupee per pound, but all teas catalogued and sold at the Colombo auctions at a price below one rupee fifty cents, will receive an export subsidy to bring the price up to one rupee, fifty cents, subject to a maximum subsidy of fifty cents a pound.

Any teas unsold for want of bids and not because of withdrawals will be purchased by the Government, provided they are not rubbishy teas.

In announcing the new scheme, which was the result of a series of conferences held today with Cabinet Ministers, Parliamentarians representing tea planting districts, brokers, shippers and producers, the Premier stated that the new proposals have met with unanimous approval.

He attributed the present weakness of the tea market, solely to the absence of Australia from the Colombo markets due to overstocking.

Australia has been the largest purchaser of medium teas and now it will not be very long before Australia re-enters the market.—France-Press.

Canberras Visit Aden

They Live In Fear Of Extinction

Berlin, May 18.

Hundreds of thousands of independent East German farmers, artisans, businessmen, factory owners and shopkeepers are again living in fear of extinction.

After years of pressure and outright persecution, they were given a new lease of life in 1953 with the introduction of the "new course" policy which utilised and supported them fully to increase the production and distribution of consumer goods.

Now, after the fall of the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr. Georgi Malenkov, and the discarding of the consumer goods drive in the whole satellite world, the course appears to be set again towards forced collectivisation of private enterprise.

CHIEF THEORIST

What this will mean for East Germany's "little capitalists" has now been stated bluntly by Herr Fred Oelsner, chief theorist of the Communist party and one of its most powerful members of the Politburo.

Herr Oelsner said that the development of the East German economy had been too slow among the "socialists," comprising the "state-run enterprises, and too fast among the "capitalists," which last year outpaced socialist production.

This was contrary to the aims of a socialist state and must be changed. It was not enough to ensure productive expansion. It must be concentrated on the socialist aspect.

The "little capitalists" were quick to note the contrast between this conclusion and the siren calls of the "new course" days before the fall of Mr. Malenkov.

Just a few months ago, Professor Kurt Teichmann, Dean of the Economic Faculty of Leipzig University, was able to declare in the chief Communist newspaper, Neues Deutschland:

"Every honest attempt on the part of private trade to improve the supply to our working population will meet with the support of the organs of our democratic state."

He stated that it was the task of the chambers for industry and commerce, formed in August 1953, for the express purpose of helping private

enterprise, to give them the necessary raw materials, supplies, credits and training facilities.

"The better private trade accomplishes its task, the more will it be able to profit," he declared.

This is a far cry from the key note speech of Herr Oelsner at an economic conference in Berlin in March, specially called to draw the lessons from the post-Malenkov economic course in the Soviet Union.

Herr Oelsner declared that, however innocuous the remains of capitalism might seem in an economy wholly controlled by a socialist state machine, they bore within them the seeds of trouble and upset for the socialist economy. He emphasised that capitalist enterprises in one form or another still made up a large section of the East German economy.

Small independent farms, artisans shops and shopkeepers still constitute a "very formidable" force, he declared, and quoted Lenin for saying that even these small enterprises had "a tendency to produce capitalism and bourgeoisie inexorably, daily, hourly, fundamentally and in mass volume."

Stating that the "bigger capitalist enterprises, though controlled by the state machine, were also still a 'considerable factor,'" he added: "Their very existence constitutes a disturbing element for the whole East German economy."

A table of industrial production in 1954 showed what strength the capitalists had developed in a single year. Capitalist production had risen by 18 per cent against 8.2 per cent of the state-owned industry and 8 per cent of socialist co-operative enterprises.

Herr Oelsner said that the "capitalist co-operatives" constituted an important part of capitalist strength in East Germany. There was, for instance, a West German grocer's buying co-operative which still had 126 local branches in East Germany. Artisans still had 1,800 buying and supply co-operatives, and there were about 1,000 capitalist agricultural and forestry co-operatives.

BIG CO-OPERATIVES
"Most of these co-operatives, above all the big ones, must quite definitely be included among the capitalists and treated accordingly in our economic policy," Herr Oelsner said. The smaller ones have the opportunity to develop into truly socialist co-operatives.

In all, Herr Oelsner proposed that all smaller capitalist economic units should be "encouraged" to give up their capitalist independence.

"Thanks to the existence of the workers' and farmers' state, there is a possibility of sparing the small producers the painful path of capitalist development and leading them directly along the path of socialist development," he said. He suggested that independent farmers could avoid the contradiction of a capitalist development in a socialist state by "voluntary union" in agricultural co-operatives (kolchozes).

"The artisans, too, are able to take the path of socialist development through co-operative union," he added.

Herr Oelsner's remedy for dealing with the bigger capitalist units, including the "capitalist co-operatives," was for the State to exercise more control by its control of licensing, materials, labour, distribution and finance.

"Finally, the private enterprises in East Germany are subjected to the influence of the socialist economy through the general distribution of goods and the finance policy of the workers' and farmers' state."

The "little capitalist" in East Germany knows that this is no empty boast, and he fears that Herr Oelsner's declarations have inaugurated a new, silent persecution of all those who have so far escaped socialisation.—China Mail Special.

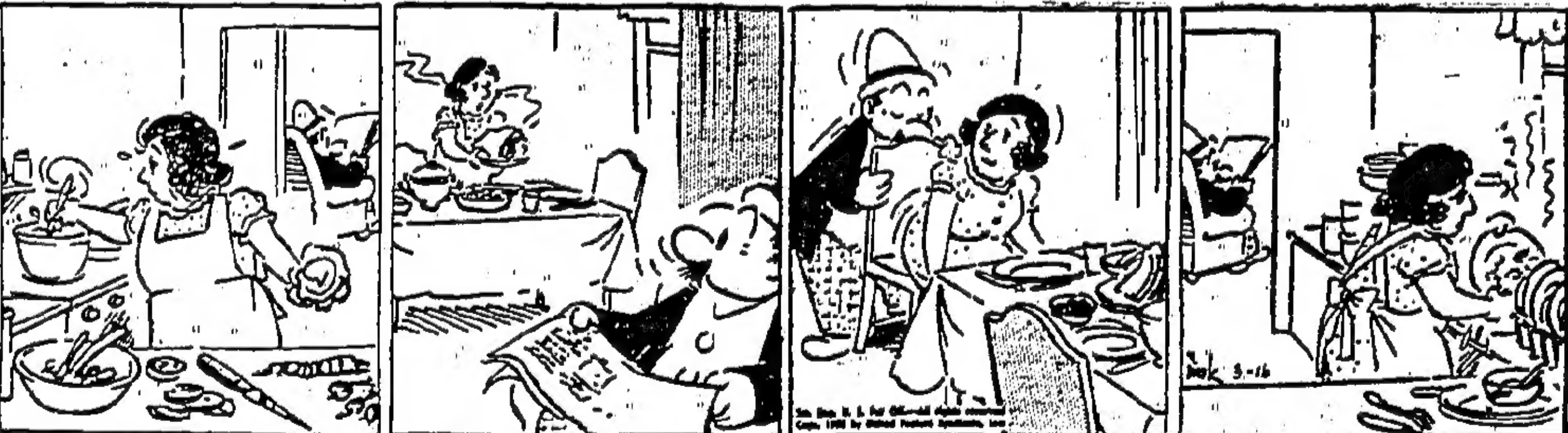
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



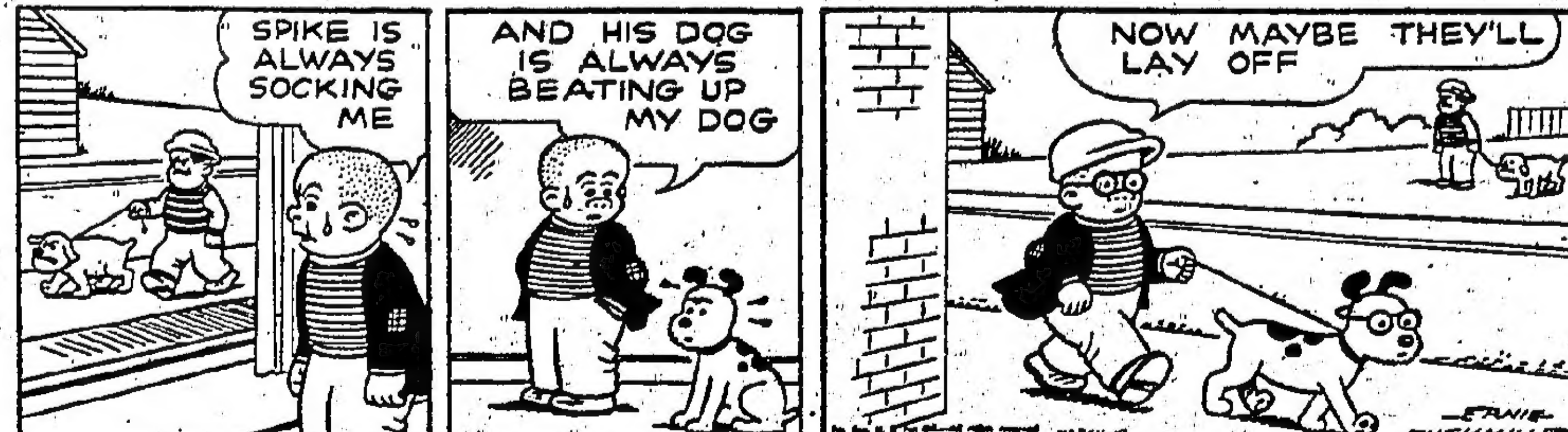
FERD'NAND

By Mik



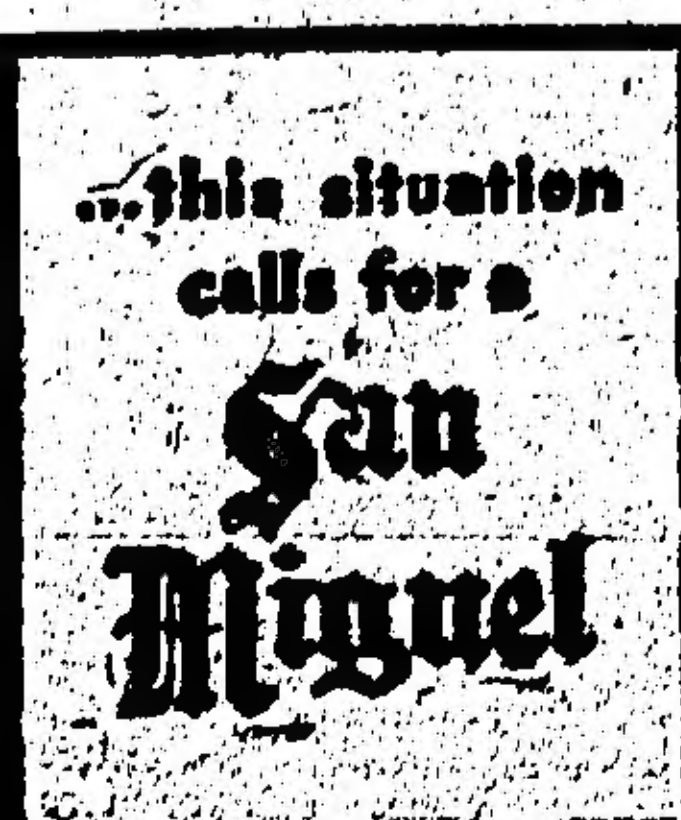
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at 9 P.M. Hong Kong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the 9 P.M. time, are given by enquiry at the local office.

THURSDAY, MAY 19
By Air
Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 4 P.M.
By Surface
Macao, 2 P.M.
Canada, 2 P.M.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

